

COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE**Pursue, Not Pass Over****APPLY // JAMES 5:13-18**

Main Idea: Prayer provides the power to endure.

1. Read James 5:7-12.
2. Why is it hard for our first impulse, no matter what we face, to pray? What are we tempted toward instead? Practically speaking, how might we grow in our impulse and practice to pray first, not as a last resort?
3. How does prayer help us patiently endure trials and temptations?
4. How can we remember that prayer is effective (even when it seems like God may not be answering our prayers)?
5. How does praying together help fuel our prayer life?
6. How does the good news of the gospel compel (not just command!) us to pray?
7. Pray.

OBSERVE & INTERPRET // 5:19-20

Main Idea: God's people pursue one another as we remain steadfast together.

1. Read James 5:13-20.
2. What is the main point of these verses? How does this passage fit into the context of the entirety of James' letter?
3. Notice the beginning words, "My brothers if anyone among you." What does the "my brothers (and sisters)" and "among you" imply?
4. Notice the sweeping language "anyone," "someone," and "whoever." Who is James directing in these verses? What does this tell us about the nature of Christian fellowship?
5. James is concerned about people who "wander from the truth." What is the truth? See John 14:6; 17:17-19; Ephesians 1:13. What does it mean to "wander"? Why is it important to have categories of wandering both in belief and in behavior?
6. What does it mean to "bring him back"? How does Galatians 6:1-2 bring further insight into this process?
7. What does James mean will happen to the person when he says bringing such a sinner back will "save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins"?
8. We know that our bringing back doesn't save and cover, so what is James saying our role is in this process? How does this saving and covering happen?

ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

QUESTION: Follow up from previous weeks.